

## ***“Get Connected” Interactive Discussion Guide***

### ***This Week’s Core Virtue—Hope***

I can cope with the hardships of life and with death because of the hope I have in Jesus Christ.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. **1 Peter 1:3-5 (NIV)**

### **Option 1—Growth Group Study: 1 Peter 1:1-12**

(Plan 30 minutes for your “study time” by focusing on the \* questions. If you need to fill out or add to your discussion, select other questions. However, be sure to leave time for “SERVICE” and prayer.)

#### **Open It**

1. What is something you once searched for very hard?
2. Complete this sentence any way you’d like: I hope that . . .
3. \*To what do people often turn in times of sorrow or suffering?

#### **Explore It**

4. To whom did Peter address his letter? ([1:1](#))
5. How had Peter’s readers been chosen? ([1:2](#))
6. For what had Peter’s readers been chosen? ([1:2](#))
7. What had God given Peter and his readers? ([1:3](#))
8. Into what kind of inheritance did Peter say his readers had been born? ([1:4](#))
9. By what are believers shielded? For how long? ([1:5](#))
10. \*What did Peter tell his readers they may have to suffer? ([1:6](#))
11. \*Why had trials come to Peter’s audience? ([1:7](#))
12. \*What benefit is there in suffering? ([1:7](#))
13. What had Peter’s readers done even though they had not seen Jesus? ([1:8](#))
14. What did Peter say was the goal of their faith? ([1:9](#))
15. About what did the prophets speak and for what did they search? ([1:10](#))
16. What did the Spirit of Christ predict? ([1:11](#))
17. Whom did Peter say these prophets were serving? ([1:12](#))
18. What did the angels long to do? ([1:12](#))

#### **Get It**

19. When do you feel as if you’re a stranger in the world?
20. When did God give you new birth?
21. \*What trials are you or have you suffered recently?
22. \*How have the trials you’ve been through strengthened and refined your faith?
23. How have your trials prepared you for Christ’s coming?
24. What fills you with joy in life?
25. What is the goal of your faith?
26. When and for what have you searched for something intently?
27. In what way have the prophets who wrote about Christ served us?
28. When was the last time God used you to serve someone else?
29. How could God use you to serve others in the near future?
30. How do you need to adjust your attitude about the trials in your life?

#### **Apply It**

31. \*What can you do this week to welcome the present trials in your life?
32. How will you rejoice in your salvation today?

### **Option 2—Discussion of Sunday's Sermon**

- What did you like?
- What did you not like?
- What did you not understand?
- How does it reinforce this week's core commitment?
- What do you want to do in response?
- What do we want to do in response?
- What will you take away?

### **Option 3—Relate Your Study to Our Core Commitments**

- What Core Commitment(s) does our study reinforce?
- What can we learn from this passage about this week's Core Commitments?
- How can we live this passage individually? As a group?
- What do we agree to do in response to this passage?